The following is a complete listing of all claims in the application, with an indication of the status of each:

Listing of claims:

1-10. (canceled)

11. (previously presented) A composition for a fire-protection agent for materials, characterized in comprising ceramic-forming additives and volume-formers, whereby in the event of heating, a volume of a layer formed by the fire-protection agent is increased by at least 500% in volume, and wherein at least the ceramic-forming additives and the volume-formers are present in nanoparticle-coated form.

12. (currently amended) A composition for a fire-protection agent for materials, characterized in comprising ceramic-forming additives and volume-formers, the combination of ceramic-forming additives and volume-formers being such as to provide, ~~whereby~~ in the event of heating, a volume of a ceramic layer formed by the fire-protection agent that is increased by at least 500% in volume, and wherein the ceramic-forming additives and the volume-formers are present as salts having a particle size of 1 to 50 μm.

13-17. (canceled)

18. (previously presented) A method of producing a fire protection agent, characterized in that ceramic-forming additives are added to a volume forming fire-protection agent, whereby the ceramic-forming additives in the volume-forming fire-protection agent are present as nanoparticle-coated salts.

19-21. (canceled)

22. (currently amended) A composition for a fire-protection agent for materials, characterized in comprising ceramic-forming additives and volume-formers, the combination of ceramic-forming additives and volume-formers being such as to provide, ~~whereby~~ in the event of heating, a volume of a ceramic layer formed by the fire-protection agent that is increased by at least 500% in volume, characterized in that the ceramic-forming additives are disodium tetraborate and ammoniumpentaborate.

23-26. (canceled)

27. (previously presented) The composition of claim 11, wherein said composition comprises at least two ceramic-forming additives.

28. (previously presented) The composition of claim 12, wherein said composition comprises at least two ceramic-forming additives.

29. (previously presented) The method of claim 18, wherein said ceramic-forming additives comprise at least two ceramic-forming additives.

30. (canceled)